

REMARKS

The Office Action dated April 21, 2006 has been reviewed and the comments of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office have been considered. The following remarks are respectfully submitted to place the application in condition for allowance. Claims 1-42 are currently pending in this Application.

Withdrawn Objection

Applicants acknowledge with thanks the Examiner's withdrawal of the rejections of claims 21-42 as outline in paragraphs 1 through 3 of the Office Action dated June 12, 2006.

Request for Record Establishing Ownership Interest

The Examiner states that the assignee has not established its ownership interest in the application. Applicants hereby submit a 3.73(b) document specifying where such documentary evidence is recorded at the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Supplemental Reissue Oath/Declaration

The Examiner states that claims 1-42 remain rejected based upon a defective reissue oath/declaration. Applicants hereby submit a Supplemental Reissue Oath/Declaration under 37 CFR 1.175(b)(1) which recites the language suggested by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Amendments

The Examiner states that the amendments filed September 20, 2004 do not comply with 37 CFR 1.173(b). Applicants wish to thank Examiner Tung, Primary Examiner Kenneth R. Horlick, and Specialist William R. Dixon for their assistance in explaining the nature of this rejection during telephone conversations on October 12, 2006. Following the suggestion of Specialist Dixon and in order to clarify the current status of the claims, Applicants hereby submit a clean version of the claims utilizing the proper format as outlined in 37 CFR 1.173(b). Claims 21 and 29 have been amended during the prosecution of this reissue application to include the phrases "in a primer based" and "wherein a characteristic of said signal primer is that it may function as an amplifiable primer in a linear fashion". Also included is a page outlining the current status of the claims. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims now stand ready and in condition for allowance. Based on the foregoing, further and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner feel that any issues remain, it is requested that the undersigned be contacted so that any such issues may be adequately addressed and prosecution of the instant application expedited.

A one-month extension of time is being filed concurrently with this reply. If additional fees are due, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-2228, referencing docket number 020187.0296 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: October 12, 2006

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